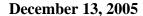
Washington State Patrol Media Advisory

Chief John R. Batiste

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Internet Safety For Teens Spotlighted Now That Vacation Is Starting

What: Now that the holiday break is coming and kids are out of school and more

frequently on their home computer, state officials want to alert parents and teenagers to the risks of going online. This will be a discussion about computer safety by the state's top law enforcement chief and other top officials. They will also introduce a new brochure on Internet safety and

provide tips for staying safe on-line.

Where: Bush Middle School, 2120 83rd Ave SW, Tumwater

When: Friday, December 16th at 10:30 a.m.

Who: WSP Chief John Batiste, Superintendent of Public Instruction Terry

Bergeson, State Senator Rosemary McAuliffe, Department of Information

Systems Director Gary Robinson.

Why: According to a Youth Internet Safety Survey, 14-17 year olds were the

most likely to receive sexual solicitations online (77%). Over 65% of the time the youth met the person who sexually exploited them through a chat room. Teenagers are the most vulnerable to be solicited and exploited online. They are also at-risk of identity theft and increasing risk for computer

viruses.

Other: Detective Rachel Edwards, a WSP undercover detective and internet

crimes investigator will also be available for interview on this topic.

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